

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 571

By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. John S. Pitts on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to help special citizens celebrate milestones in their venerable lives; and

WHEREAS, on February 20, 1948, John Pitts and Julia Ann Moore were joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day this loving couple has shared the joys and sorrows of life's journey, facing the world as one; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Pitts are residents of Memphis and have been highly respected citizens of their community for nearly 50 years; and

WHEREAS, the Pitts are graduates of Central High School in Murfreesboro, where Julia had a crush on John, but as an upperclassman he didn't pay much attention; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pitts attended David Lipscomb College in Nashville as a freshman prior to entering the Navy during World War II, and upon his return he graduated from the University of the South at Sewanee; and

WHEREAS, after graduation from high school, Mrs. Pitts worked for an insurance company, where she saw Mr. Pitts for the first time since their high school days; the couple began dating and a year later they were married at the East Main Church of Christ in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pitts began working as the editor for the *Daily News Journal* and was at one time the youngest editor of a daily newspaper in Tennessee. He later became a civilian editor of the Millington Naval Base newspaper, *The Blue Jacket*, and in 1960, embarked upon a

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successful career as an agent with the State Farm Life Insurance Company, where he remains today; and

WHEREAS, the Pitts are the very epitome of good neighbors, always ready with a kind word and eager to lend a helping hand to those in need; and

WHEREAS, they have been lifelong members of the Church of Christ, and have been instrumental in helping start two congregations in Memphis, at the Germantown Church of Christ and at Brownsville Road Church of Christ, where they were members for 27 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pitts served as an elder for many years and has been on several mission trips to Torez in the Ukraine to aid in the establishment of congregations in that country. The Pitts currently evince their devout religious faith as members of the Quail Ridge Church of Christ and, in addition, serve as foster parents for Agape Child and Family Services; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's blessed union has produced three children, each of whom has made his or her mark on the world and is highly successful in their own right; the Pitts' children are John Gregory, Mark David, and Lucinda Leigh; and

WHEREAS, the Pitts are delighted to be called Grandpa and Grandma by their two grandchildren, Shana Nicole and Camryn Elizabeth, and enjoy the love and support of their daughter-in-law, Carla Jo Pitts; and

WHEREAS, for 50 years this union has endured to stand as a testament to the power of love and family; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as this are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby pause to honor and congratulate Mr. and Mrs. John S. Pitts as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.